

Refugee Week: Myths and Misconceptions

There are lots of myths surrounding why people flee their homes, which is why it's important to know the facts!

Watch these two videos about Refugees and play our fact or fiction game below!



Most of the answers can be found in the videos but we may have put in a few sneaky ones which can't be found in them, so good luck!

Read these statements carefully and decide if they are fact or fiction:

1. When people first come to this country seeking sanctuary, they're called an asylum seeker
2. Climate change can cause someone to become a refugee
3. Most refugees come to the UK to seek sanctuary
4. 40 million people have been forced away from their homes
5. 10% of refugees are children
6. A refugee camp is a type of temporary accommodation for people who have to flee their home for safety
7. It is a human right to seek safety
8. Seeking safety is something we've only witnessed recently
9. When people first come to this country to find safety, they can find work easily
10. Most refugees come from Syria, Venezuela, Afghanistan, South Sudan and Myanmar
11. People often risk their lives to seek safety



Fact or fiction answers:

1. FACT: when people first come to this country they're seeking asylum and have to claim refugee status in order to be allowed to stay here
2. FACT: climate change can cause someone to become a refugee, as many people are displaced due to natural disasters caused by our warming climate
3. FICTION: most refugees go to their neighbouring countries to seek safety. Turkey hosts the most amount of refugees (3.6 million in fact).
4. FICTION: there are 65.5 million refugees
5. FICTION: according to UNHCR half of refugees are children
6. FACT: a refugee camp is a temporary settlement built to receive refugees and people in refugee-like situations.
7. FACT: it is a human right to seek safety, as everybody has the right to freedom from fear
8. FICTION: people have been seeking safety for centuries, we can date it back as far as the 1600s
9. FICTION: when people first come to this country they are unable to work until their claims for asylum have been granted, giving them refugee status.
10. FACT: according to UNHCR 67% of refugees originate from Syria, Venezuela, Afghanistan, South Sudan and Myanmar. People flee these countries for varying reasons such as, violence, persecution, natural disasters and shortages of food.
11. FACT: lots of people risk their lives seeking safety as they have to take treacherous routes to countries that they may not be allowed to go to.

There are lots of reasons why people might be a refugee and we often have no idea what they have been through before they reach Scotland, which makes it even more important to be welcoming to them!

Activity

As we learned in the quiz, lots of refugees come from different places and speak many different languages.

Create a welcome poster in as many different languages that you can find.

You can use [Google Translate](https://www.google.com/translate) to help you, here are some translations of the word “welcome” to get you started:



Here's one from a school in Norfolk, for inspiration.

We'd love to see your finished posters!
Send them to us on Twitter
[@ourdynamicearth](https://twitter.com/ourdynamicearth)

Use the hashtags
#DynamicEarthOnline
#RefugeeWeek2021



Image credit: Norfolk Schools of Sanctuary

